I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV323769979US in an exteelops addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Pat Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: October 18, 2004 Signature:

Docket No.: 27656/40537

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Alcide BARBERIS et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned (National Phase of PCT/IB02/01342) Art Unit: N/A

Filed: October 18, 2004

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: METHOD FOR THE

IDENTIFICATION OF MODULATORS

OF A SECRETASE ACTIVITY

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on Page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 7 of this paper.